Appln. No. 09/699,224 Amdt. dated August 26, 2003 Reply to Office Action of Feb. 26, 2003

## Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

## **Listing of Claims:**

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Claim 1 (currently amended): An <u>isolated</u> peptide mimic of a conserved gonococcal epitope not found on human blood group antigens, wherein said peptide mimic is capable of inducing in a mammal an immune response against said conserved gonococcal epitope.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The peptide mimic according to claim 1, wherein the amino acid sequence of the peptide mimic comprises the sequence DE\_GLF.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The peptide mimic according to claim 1, wherein the immune response is T-cell dependent.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The peptide mimic according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the amino acid sequence of the peptide mimic comprises cysteine residues at each terminus.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The peptide mimic according to claim 4, wherein a cyclic peptide is formed through disulfide bridges between the cysteine residues at each terminus of said sequence.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The peptide mimic according to claim 5, wherein the peptide mimic further comprises at least one tail for coupling to a second agent.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The peptide mimic according to claim 6, wherein the second agent is an adjuvant.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The peptide mimic according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the peptide mimic further comprises an adjuvant or a carrier protein.

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Claim 9 (previously presented): The peptide mimic according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the peptide mimic is part of a multiple antigen peptide. ARD.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The peptide mimic according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said peptide mimic competes with gonococcal [[LOS]] <u>lipooligosaccharide (LOS)</u> for binding to monoclonal antibody 2C7.

Claim 11 (currently amended): An <u>isolated</u> peptide mimic which immunospecifically binds to an antibody that binds to an oligosaccharide epitope of *N. gonorrhoeae*, which oligosaccharide epitope is not present in human blood group antigens.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The peptide mimic according to claim 11, wherein the peptide mimic binds to monoclonal antibody 2C7.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The peptide mimic according to claim 11, wherein the peptide mimic binds to a monoclonal antibody produced by immunizing a mammal with an anti-idiotypic monoclonal antibody, or fragment thereof, produced by a hybridoma cell line having the characteristics of HB 11311 as deposited with the ATCC.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The peptide mimic according to claim 11, wherein the peptide mimic is part of a multiple antigen peptide (MKD).

Claim 15 (previously presented): A composition for immunizing against *N. gonorrhoeae* infection comprising an immunoprophylactically effective amount of a peptide mimic according to any one of claims 1-3, 5-7, 9 or 11-14.

Claim 16 (previously presented): A composition for immunizing against *N. gonorrhoeae* infection comprising an immunoprophylactically effective amount of a peptide mimic comprising the peptide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

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